# HURRICANE READINESS CHYCOUNTY CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG YORK COUNTY



Large trees were felled by high winds as Isabel passed through the area.

# It's time to prepare for storms and other emergencies

Last year's hurricane that devastated southern Louisiana and the Gulf Coast of Mississippi brought home images of death, suffering and destruction unimaginable in this country. Months later, many Hurricane Katrina survivors are still struggling to rebuild their broken homes and lives.

When Isabel struck in 2003, Williamsburg area residents learned that this area is not immune to the destructive forces of high winds that toppled many trees, crushing houses and other property in its path. Some low-lying homes flooded, leaving thousands of dollars in damage behind as the water receded. In addition, thousands of residents lived without electric power for days.

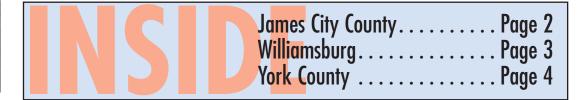


With these powerful lessons learned, residents are urged to prepare now to be self-sufficient for three days up to one week. This means gathering enough water, medications, food that is not refrigerated and other supplies to take care of your family and pets at your home. A battery-operated radio can be a lifeline to important emergency information during power outages. See page 2 of this insert for a handy guide to buying supplies over four weeks.

Hurricane experts predict another active Atlantic hurricane season. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) outlook calls for 13 to 16 named storms, with eight to 10 becoming hurricanes. Four to six of these hurricanes could become "major" hurricanes of Category 3 strength or higher. The vast majority of these tropical storms and hurricanes will form from August through October.

This continues a trend beginning with 1995 of above-normal Atlantic hurricane seasons with the exceptions of 1997 and 2002. NOAA cites warmer ocean water combined with lower wind shear, weaker easterly trade winds, and a more favorable wind pattern in the mid-levels of the atmosphere as factors that favor the development of storms in greater numbers and greater intensity.

The time is now to prepare your home and family for the hurricane season and other emergencies. It is crucial that your family develop a preparedness plan in advance. In this special hurricane readiness guide, you will find out how to assemble a disaster supply kit, enact a family disaster plan and protect your family, pets and home. Important emergency phone numbers are given for James City County, City of Williamsburg and York County. Be sure to keep this handy guide for future reference.



# How Evacuation Decisions are Made

The decision to evacuate is made by local officials in coordination with other jurisdictions in the region. This normally involves conference calls with local and state officials as well as the National Weather Service. Computerized tracking and analysis models are also helpful in deciding if or when to evacuate. Key factors in evacuation decision-making include:

Providing enough time for people in storm surge zones and mobile homes to leave before the arrival of 39 mph winds;

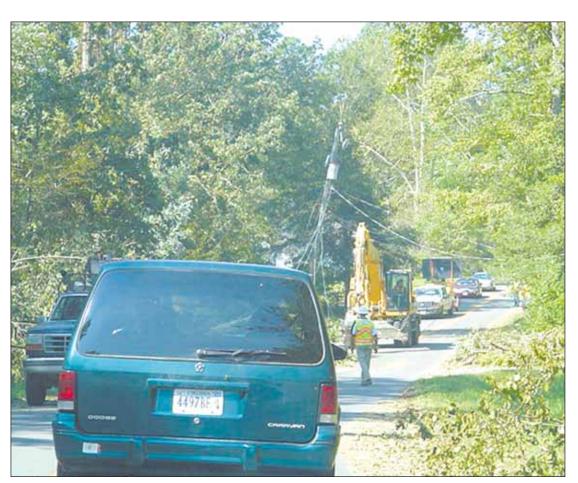
The decision to evacuate is made by local officials in coordination with other jurisdictions in the region.

Selecting an appropriate evacuation time to allow citizens to get to safety during daylight hours; and

Providing the news media with enough time to warn the greatest number of people.

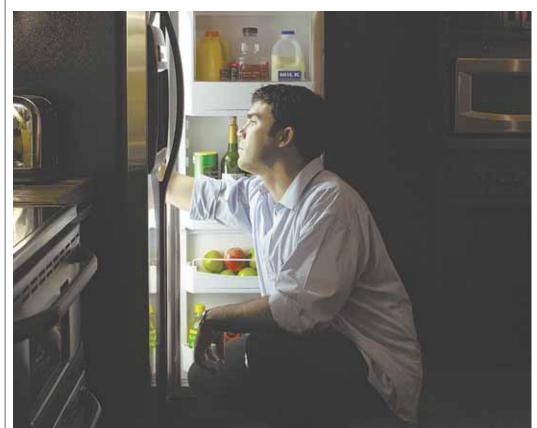
People have several choices for their evacuation destination. They can stay with family or friends or go to a hotel or public shelter outside the storm surge zone. Evacuation and shelter openings usually happen simultaneously.

The American Red Cross and other community-based organizations have a Web site, **www. Prepare.org**, to help serve seniors, children, people with disabilities and animal and pet owners. Preparedness materials are also available in English and multiple foreign languages.



Downed power lines made some roads impassable during Isabel.

#### The power went out three days ago, and the milk is still good!



A KOHLER $_{\scriptsize \odot}$  residential generator provides automatic, worry-free emergency power to supply your

electrical needs for days, even weeks. Plus, a KOHLER® generator easily and permanently links to your

existing LP or natural gas connection, which means it never needs

to be refueled. So, whether you're building or remodeling, with a

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### Hathaway Generators

757-253-8511

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# HURRICANE READINESS GUIDE 2006

## **James City County emergency** information and phone numbers

#### Before the storm

- Watch JCC TV48 for information.
- Visit www.jccEgov.com.
- Listen to local radio and TV stations.
- Call the County's Emergency Hotline for recorded information, 875-2424.
- Pick up a refrigerator magnet with local emergency phone numbers at County offices or call the Office of Emergency Management, 566-4315.
- Sign up for emergency information updates at <a href="https://www.jccEgov.com">www.jccEgov.com</a>.
- Prepare to "shelter in place" with enough food, water, medication and other supplies to live without power for at least two weeks.
- Locate your regional shelter. James City County and the City of Williamsburg operate a joint shelter at the James City/Williamsburg Community Center, 5301 Longhill Road, 259-4200. Others shelters may open as needed.
- Create a personalized hurricane plan at www.OneStorm.org

#### **During the storm**

- Call 911 for fire and life-threatening emergencies.
- Listen to WMBG 740 AM and the Tide 92.3 FM for regular County updates.
- Call Dominion Virginia Power to report power outages and downed power lines, 1-888-667-3000. Power will be restored to critical infrastructure
- such as public works and major hospitals first, then to areas that serve the largest number of customers. Contact the Citizen Inquiry Line after the County's Emergency Operations Center is activated, 566-4315.
- Contact the Virginia Department of Emergency Management's Public Inquiry Center for citizen calls during an emergency, 1-866-880-4288.

#### After the storm

- Read local newspapers for daily updates.
- Watch JCC TV48.
- Visit www.jccEgov.com.

#### Should I evacuate?

James City County Emergency Management will recommend, or in some circumstances, mandate evacuation of certain areas. For your safety, you

should evacuate as early as possible. At the height of a storm, public safety personnel may not be available to help you leave.

#### Special needs assistance

Prepare ahead by signing up with Heads Up, 564-2144, James City County's assistance program for residents with special needs such as hearing impaired or wheelchair bound. The confidential database system is activated should emergency personnel need to respond to a medical emergency at your address or during a county-wide disaster.

#### **Public shelter information**

The James City/Williamsburg Community Center, 5301 Longhill Road, is the County's public shelter during an emergency. Other shelters may open as needed. Check your local information sources to find out when the shelter will open. Pets are not allowed at public shelters. Bring clothing, personal hygiene items, medicines, activities for children, bedding, baby formula and other essential infant supplies.

#### **Drinking water**

The Health Department, James City Service Authority, or Newport News Waterworks will notify residents and the County if public water supplies are determined unsafe and precautions are necessary.

Generally, residents living in the Grove and Kingsmill areas receive their water from Newport News Waterworks. Check your water bill to verify who supplies your water.

#### How can I help my neighbors?

Neighborhood Connections, 259-5422, and the County Office of Emergency Management, 566-4315, can help your neighborhood create an emergency plan that includes tips on neighborhood surveys, needs assessments, and setting up successful phone trees. Citizens may also sign up for training with the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). For more details, call the CERT Coordinator's office at 253-0574. When the power goes out, communications and County services are limited. Neighborhood Connections is a vital part of emergency support.

#### **Useful phone numbers**

JCC Emergency Hotline 875-2424 JCC Emergency Management 566-4315 Dominion VA Power 1-888-667-3000

Water/Sewer (7 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.) 229-7421, (after hours) 566-0112

Citizen Inquiry (after EOC activation) 566-4315 VDOT 1-800-367-7623

Virginia Natural Gas 1-877-572-3342

# **Emergency Shelter FACTS**

Many shelters in Virginia operate under a system developed by the American Red Cross. Shelter staffing can include any combination of municipal, social services and school employees with Red Cross volunteers.

#### Facts about emergency public shelters:

They provide emergency, short-term shelter to the public.

Shelters outside the storm surge and flood zones meet state building codes and provide a safer place for people who must leave hazardous areas. All shelters in the path of a hurricane are subject to high winds.

Public shelters may be called refuge centers (no services and located on barrier islands or near evacuation routes), host shelters (inland) or impact shelters (in the storm's path).

Emergency shelters may not be able to provide adequate supplies of food, water and bedding, so individuals coming to shelters should bring the following items to support their stay:

Extra clothing, shoes, eyeglasses, etc. Folding chairs, lawn chairs or cots

Personal hygiene supplies

Flashlights and batteries

Quiet games, books and favorite toys

Important papers

**Prescription medications** 

Pets are not allowed in public shelters. Consider options that include kennels or an animal shelter. Only service animals can stay with their owner in the shelter.

Emergency shelters operate under Red Cross guidelines and provide basic first aid only. Individuals receiving home health care

should consult their physician or home health provider concerning plans for health care needs and possible evacuation during an

In major hurricanes, inland host shelters will be available in central and western Virginia.

Each locality has a list of facilities (often public schools) that may be used as emergency shelters. In the event of a hurricane, however, some of these facilities may be in the path of the storm or at risk of flooding. When a hurricane is threatening Virginia, turn to your local radio or TV station for listings. You will hear where these shelters are located and when they will open.

#### When to Stay at Home

One of the most important decisions you will have to make is whether to evacuate. If a hurricane threatens, stay tuned to local radio or TV, and if you are asked to evacuate, you should do so without delay. Unless you live in a coastal or low-lying area, an area that floods frequently, or in manufactured housing, it is unlikely that officials will ask you to evacuate. That means that it is important for you and your family to have a plan that makes you as safe as possible in your home.

Everyone in coastal Virginia is at some level of risk for storm surge or flooding. This means everyone needs to prepare, even if your home is reasonably safe and outside flood zones. An innovative idea for hurricane preparedness is the safe room. The concept comes from the tornado-prone regions of the Midwest where residents learn to identify a central area in a structure away from windows and doors and on the first floor. Bathrooms, central hallway closets, or areas under stairwells provide the best locations for protection. During hurricanes, families move into these areas with their disaster supply kit, flashlights and portable radio or NOAA Weather Radio and stay there through the peak of the storm. This area not only provides protection from the wind, but also from tornadoes associated with hurricanes.

# **Assemble All-Hazards Kit in** 4 Easy Steps

Preparedness is the key to survival in any disaster, includ-

ing hurricanes and terrorism, and having a family disaster supply kit handy can aid in recovery. The following sample shopping list should help you to assemble the basic items for a family disaster supply kit over four weeks in four easy shopping trips. Purchase enough supplies to last at least two weeks so that you will be prepared in the event of a long-term emergency.



Bags of ice and bottled water were distributed to local residents without power.

#### **WEEK ONE** Hardware Store:

- Containers to hold disaster supply kit (large plastic tub with lid, backpack, etc.)
- Flashlights
- 1 Portable Tool Kit
- 1 Roll of Duct Tape
- 1 Utility Knife
- 1 Tarp (to cover a leaky roof if necessary)
- 1 Battery Operated Radio • Batteries for Flashlights and Radio

#### Purchase or gather from existing household supply:

- 1 Blanket /Pillow or Sleeping Bag for Each Member of Household
- Books or Games for Entertainment
- 1 Local Road Map
- 1 Set of Extra Clothing and Shoes for Each Member of Household.

#### **WEEK TWO Grocery Store:**

- Cans of Meat for Each Member of Household
- (i.e., tuna, chicken, corned beef)
- Cans of Ready-to-Eat Soup for Each Member of Household.
- Cans of Vegetables for Each Member of Household.
- Cans of Fruit for Each Member of Household. • 1 Box of Heavy-Duty Garbage Bags with Ties
- 1 Box of Zip-Lock Food Storage Bags for Storing Important
- Papers and Small Items.
- 1 Manual Can Opener

#### **WEEK THREE Drug Store:**

- 1 Toothbrush for Each Member of Household
- 1 Large Tube of Toothpaste
- 1 Bottle each of Necessary Over-The-Counter and Prescription Medications
- 1 Box of Sanitary Wipes or Liquid Hand Sanitizer
- 1 Package of Sanitary Napkins or Tampons
- 1 Bottle of Shampoo • 1 Family Size First Aid Kit

#### **WEEK FOUR Grocery Store:**

- At Least 3 Gallons of Water for Each Member of Household, Including Pets.
- Containers/Boxes of Quick Energy Snacks (granola bars, nuts, raisins, trail mix) • 1 Jar of Peanut Butter
- Large Cans of Juice (Not concentrate)
- 1 Package of Assorted Plastic Utensils
- 1 Package of Paper Plates & Bowls.
- 2 Rolls of Paper Towels
- 1 6-Roll Pack of Toilet Paper.

Purchase extra items for pets (carriers, food, leashes, toys, etc.) Purchase extra items for children (baby food, formula, diapers, coloring books, etc.)

Purchase extra items for elderly or special needs family members (hearing aid batteries, medications, special food, etc.)

# Dan's Tree Service

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> Free Consultation: Tree by Tree Estimate Please Call Dan at (757) 206-9073

**Comprehensive Insurance & References Available** 



- Can you do it yourself, SAFELY? (Consider personal safety, power lines, your knowledge of chainsaws, and your home) Use caution with suspended weight (Trees are extremely heavy, unpredictable, and using a ladder will get you hurt)
- If you feel the price is too high then it probably is (get a second estimate, preferably from a local, free markets always prevail)
- Get a written detailed estimate that describes exactly what will be done (don't get the tree off the house but left in your yard)
- WAIT: high pressure contracts usually are more concerned with their wallet and not with helping you
- What skills and appropriate equipment does the contractor have: were they an arborist or a landscaper before the storm
- **Hurricane Cleanup Tips for Removing Trees**
- Can you live with the mess for a while (How critical is the cleanup...prices are much better a month or more after the storm)
- Williamsburg Shopping Center, 1230 Richmond Road • Deposits, if necessary at all, should be no more than 10% of the job and not more than you can loose • 12490 Warwick Blvd., Newport News
- Dan Has Extensive Hurricane Cleanup Experience From Storms Isabel, Katrina & Rita.

# Don't Be Caught in the Dark

Hardware The helpful place.

**Generators** 

**Coleman Lanterns** 

**Batteries** 

**† Coleman Cookstoves** 

Flashlights

**†** Gas Grills

4 Locations to Serve You!

229-1900 594-9890

 Gov's Green Shopping Center, 4511 John Tyler Hwy. 220-9362 2098 Nickerson Boulevard, Hampton

Monday - Saturday, 7:30 am - 8 pm; Sunday, 9 am - 5 pm

# HURRICANE READINESS GUIDE 2006

# City of Williamsburg emergency information and phone numbers

For Information Before the Storm

Access the City's website: www.williamsburgva.gov. Click on "Emergency Preparedness."

Watch WMSBG Channel 48 for City of Williamsburg bulletins.

Watch televised weather advisory channels to track storm.

Call 220-6161, the City's Human Services Department, for special needs assistance.

Call 221-4000 or access website (www.wm.edu) for information regarding the College of William and Mary, and call 229-1000 or access website (www.cwf.org) regarding Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

#### **Other Useful Emergency Preparedness Websites**

American Red Cross: www.redcross.org

Virginia Department of Emergency Management: www.vdes.state.va.us

Virginia Department of Health: www.vdh.state.va.us

Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov

U.S. Department of Homeland Security: www.ready.gov

#### Actions to Take Before the Storm

Prepare to "shelter in place" with provisions enough to live without power, public drinking water, and other public services for at least a week.

Locate your regional shelter. The City of Williamsburg operates a shelter at the Quarterpath Recreation Center, 202 Quarterpath Road, 259-3760. Call 259-7200 for information.

Learn your evacuation routes. The City of Williamsburg is a host jurisdiction during an evacuation of coastal areas. If citizens need to evacuate, Interstate 64 and Route 60 West are the primary routes to leave the City.

Know your Neighborhood Response Team (NRT). NRTs are trained citizen volunteers in your neighborhood who assist City officials during emergencies. For more information, contact Human Services Director Peter Walentisch at 220-6161.

#### **During the Storm**

Call 911 for Police, Fire, or Emergency Medical response.

Listen to WMBG 740AM for local information during power outages.

To contact the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) call 259-7200

#### **After the Storm**

Read the Virginia Gazette or Daily Press for daily updates.

Call the City Emergency Operations Center at 259-7200 to report disaster conditions needing City response.

Watch City Channel WMSBG 48 and/or access the City website at www.williamsburgva.gov when power is available.

#### **Useful Phone Numbers:**

Police non-emergency: 220-2331 Fire non-emergency: 220-6220

Public Works: 220-6140 (After hours 220-6196) Building Inspection/Code Compliance: 220-6254

City Manager's Office: 220-6100 Dominion VA Power: 1-888-667-3000 Virginia Natural Gas: 1-877-572-3342 Cox Communications: 1-757-224-1111 Verizon Telephone: 1-800-275-2355

# 2006 Hurricane Names



Oscar Patty Rafael Sandy Tony **Valerie** William

York County personnel staff the Emergency **Operations** Center.

# Preparing pets for evacuation

The best way to protect your family from the effects of a disaster is to have a disaster plan. If you are a pet owner, that plan must include your pets. Being pre-

If you must evacuate, make sure you find a safe shelter for your pets. Pets left behind can become injured, lost or ill. So, prepare now for the day when you and your pets may have to leave your home.

(This list was modified from the Humane Society of the United States in cooperation with the American Red Cross.)

#### **Before the Disaster**

Don't forget your pet when preparing a family disaster plan. Assemble a portable pet disaster supplies kit. Keep items in an accessible place and store them in sturdy containers that can be easily carried. Your pet disaster supplies kit should include:

- Medications, immunization records and a first aid
- Sturdy leashes, muzzles, harnesses, carriers or cages to transport pets safely.
- Current photos of your pets in case they get lost.

- Food, drinking water, bowls, cat litter/pan and can
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems and the name and number of
- Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable.

#### Have a Safe Place To Take Your Pets

 Disaster shelters cannot accept pets because of health and safety regulations and other considerations. The only animals allowed in shelters are service animals that assist people with disabilities. Research your sheltering options before a disaster strikes.

- Contact hotels and motels outside your immediate area to check policies on accepting pets.
- Ask friends, relatives or others outside you whether they could shelter your animals in an emer-
- Prepare a list of animal shelters, boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency.

#### Know What To Do As a Disaster Approaches

Call ahead to confirm emergency shelter arrangements for you and your pets.

Check to be sure your pet disaster supplies are ready to take at a moment's notice.

Bring all pets into the house so you won't have to search for them if you have to leave in a hurry. Make sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars and up-to-date identification tags.

#### After the Disaster

Walk pets on a leash until they become re-oriented to their home -- often familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and pets could easily be confused and

become lost. Also, downed power lines and debris can all pose a threat for animals after a disaster. If pets cannot be found after a disaster, contact the local animal control office to find out where lost animals can be reclaimed. Bring along a picture of your

pet if possible. After a disaster, animals can become aggressive or defensive - monitor their behavior.

For more information, contact the VDEM Public Affairs Office at (804) 897-6510 or by mail: Virginia Department of Emergency Management **Public Affairs Office** 

10501 Trade Court Richmond, VA 23236

(This list was modified from the Humane Society of the United States in cooperation with the American Red Cross.)

#### **Know What to Do** in an Evacuation

#### In an Evacuation:

- 1. Listen to your battery-powered radio and follow the instructions of local emergency
- 2. Wear protective clothing and sturdy shoes. 3. Take your disaster supplies kit.
- 4. Listen to your battery-powered radio or car radio and use travel
- routes specified by local authorities don't use shortcuts because certain areas may be impassable or dangerous. 5. If you do not own a vehicle or drive, learn what your
- community's arrangements are for those without private transportation.

~ Virginia Department of Emergency Management



Many area homes were damaged by trees and flooding

# **Shelter Supply Kit**

- Use easy-to-carry containers:
   Backpacks, duffle bags, trash cans Bottled Water - 1 gallon per person per day
- Canned or packaged ready-to-eat foods
- Manual can opener, cooler
- First aid for cuts and abrasions
- Paper plates, utensils, cups etc
- Portable radio, flashlight, lantern and extra batteries Battery powered television
- Sanitation supplies
- Folding chairs, etc, one blanket, sleeping bag, pillow per person One change of clothing and footwear per person
- Quiet games, toys, books, cards
- First aid kit: include prescription medications, insulin, needles, etc.
- Special items for infant, elderly or disabled An extra pair of glasses or contacts
- Identification, extra set of car keys, credit card, cash or
- traveler's checks Keep enough supplies to meet your needs for 3 days

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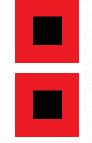
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#### Do You Know Where To Turn To When You Need **Emergency Information?**







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#### **WMBG AM 740**

will be on the air with up-to-the-minute information you need in times of trouble.

Tune in to WMBG AM 740 everyday and enjoy "The Music of Your Life" from your favorite artists like Frank Sinatra, Glenn Miller, Elvis and so many more...

## **York County emergency** information and phone numbers

#### Before the storm

**Preparedness Information:** Visit York County's Web site, www.yorkcounty.gov/fls/em

Locate your Neighborhood Fire Station: Visit www.yorkcounty.gov/fls/fres/home.htm

Determine if your property is in a flood zone: See <u>www.regis.state.va.us/york/pub/index</u>

See www.virginiadot.org/comtravel/hurricane-evac-default.asp

Grafton Middle School is primary and supplemented by other schools as needed. Grafton Middle School is located at 403 Grafton Drive, off Route 17 and behind Fire Station 1.

Questions? Call 890-3600.

#### **Response and Recovery**

<u>Listen</u> to radio station WXGM 99.1 FM for evacuation advisories.

Call 911 for life-threatening emergencies

Call 1-888-667-3000 to report power outage and/or downed wires.

<u>Call 890-3621</u> to report downed trees or damage to structure without hazards or injuries.

#### For disaster services information in order of priority:

Listen to battery operated radio, tune to WXGM 99.1 FM.

Go to your neighborhood Fire Station.

# Hurricane Categories

**The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale** is a 1-5 rating based on the hurricane's present intensity. This is used to give an estimate of the potential property damage and flooding expected along the coast from a hurricane landfall.

**Category One:** 

Winds 74-95 mph. Storm surge generally 4-5 feet above normal. No real damage to building structures. Damage primarily to unanchored mobile homes, shrubbery, and trees. Some damage to poorly constructed signs. Also, some coastal road flooding and minor pier damage. Hurricanes Allison of 1995 and Danny of 1997 were in this category at peak intensi-

**Category Two:** 

Winds  $\bar{9}6\text{-}1\bar{1}0$  mph. Storm surge generally 6-8 feet above normal. Some roofing material, door, and window damage of buildings. Considerable damage to shrubbery and trees with some trees blown down. Considerable damage to mobile homes, poorly constructed signs and piers. Coastal and low-lying escape routes flood 2-4 hours before arrival of the hurricane center. Small craft in unprotected anchorages break moorings. Hurricane Bonnie of 1998 was a Category Two hurricane when it hit the North Carolina coast, as was Hurricane Georges of 1998 when it hit the Florida Keys and the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

**Category Three:** 

Winds 111-130 mph. Storm surge generally 9-12 feet above normal. Some structural damage to small residences and utility buildings. Damage to shrubbery and trees with foliage blown off trees and large trees blown down. Mobile homes and poorly constructed signs are destroyed. Lowlying escape routes are cut by rising water 3-5 hours before arrival of the center of the hurricane. Flooding near the coast destroys smaller structures with larger structures damaged by battering from floating debris. Terrain continuously lower than 5 feet above mean sea level may be

flooded inland 8 miles or more. Evacuation of low-lying residences with several blocks of the shoreline may be required. Hurricanes Roxanne of 1995 and Fran of 1996 were in this category at landfall on the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico and in North Carolina, respectively.

**Category Four:** 

Winds 131-155 mph. Storm surge generally 13-18 feet above normal. More extensive curtainwall failures with some complete roof structure failures on small residences. Shrubs, trees and all signs are blown down. Complete destruction of mobile homes. Extensive damage to doors and windows. Low-lying escape routes may be cut by rising water 3-5 hours before arrival of the center of the hurricane. Major damage to lower floors of structures near the shore. Terrain lower than 10 feet above sea level may be flooded requiring massive evacuation of residential areas as far inland as 6 miles. Hurricane Luis of 1995 was a Category Four hurricane while moving over the Leeward Islands. Hurricanes Felix and Opal of 1995 also reached this status at peak intensity.

**Category Five:** 

Winds greater than 155 mph. Storm surge generally greater than 18 feet above normal. Complete roof failure on many residences and industrial buildings. Some complete building failures with small utility buildings blown over or away. All shrubs, trees, and signs blown down. Complete destruction of mobile homes. Severe and extensive window and door damage. Low-lying escape routes are cut by rising water 3-5 hours before arrival of the center of the hurricane. Major damage to lower floors of all structures located less than 15 ft above sea level and within 500 yards of the shoreline. Massive evacuation of residential areas on low ground within 5-10 miles (8-16 km) of the shoreline may be required. Hurricane Mitch of 1998 was a Category Five hurricane at peak intensity over the western Caribbean. Hurricane Gilbert of 1988 was a Category Five hurricane at peak intensity and is one of the strongest Atlantic tropical

# Protect your home against winds

During a hurricane, homes may be damaged or destroyed by high winds and high waves. Debris can break windows and doors, allowing high winds inside the home.

Now is the time to prune trees and shrubs. Check to make sure insurance coverage is adequate. Collect all important papers and keep in waterproof container. In addition, take pictures of home and possessions and keep

Everyone living in a mobile home or home of similar construction, and flood zones should prepare to evacuate. Others should prepare to shelter in place or evacuate before an evacuation advisory is given.

If sheltering in place, here are some tips.

#### Just before the hurricane:

- ✓ Listen to battery powered radio or TV for information.  $\checkmark$  Secure your home, close storm shutters, and secure outdoor objects or
- bring them indoors
- ✓ Turn off utilities if instructed to do so. Otherwise, turn the refrigerator
- ✓ Turn off propane tanks.
- ✓ Avoid using the phone, except for serious emergencies.
- $\checkmark$  Ensure a supply of water for sanitary purposes such as cleaning and flushing toilets. Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water.

thermostat to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.

#### **During the hurricane:**

- ✓ Go to your wind-safe room and take disaster supply kit with flash lights and battery powered radio.
- ✓ Stay indoors during the hurricane and away from windows and glass
- $\checkmark$  Close all interior doors. Secure and brace external doors.  $\checkmark$  Keep curtains and blinds closed. Do not be fooled if there is a lull; it
- could be the eye of the storm winds will pick up again. ✓ Take refuge in a small interior room, closet, or hallway on the lowest
- ✓ Lie on the floor under a table or another sturdy object.

For more information, see www.fema.gov.

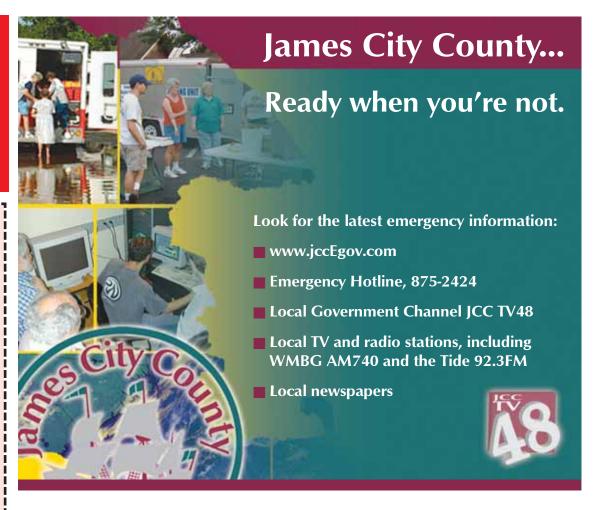
Hurricane conditions are possible in the specified area of the watch, usually within 36 hours.

**Warning:** 

Hurricane conditions are expected in the specified area of the warning, usually within 24 hours.



Jamestown 1607 residents were evacuated during flooding caused by Floyd.





- Access City emergency management information on the City of Williamsburg's website at www.williamsburgva.gov. Click on "Emergency Preparedness."
- Watch City Channel 48 for City of Williamsburg bulletins Watch televised weather advisory channels to track storm
- Call 220-6161 for special needs assistance

#### (1) uring the Storm:

- Call 911 for police, fire, or emergency medical response
- Listen to WMBG 740 AM for local information during power outages
- To contact the City's Emergency Operations Center call 259-7200

#### After the Storm:

- Read the Virginia Gazette or Daily Press for daily updates
- Call City Emergency Operations Center at 259-7200 to report disaster conditions needing City response
- Watch Channel 48 and/or access the City website at <a href="www.williamsburgva.gov">www.williamsburgva.gov</a> when power is available • Other Useful Phone Numbers:

Police non-emergency: 220-2331 • Fire non-emergency: 220-6220 • Verizon: 1-800-275-2355 Public Works: 220-6140 (After hours 220-6196) • City Manager's Office: 220-6100 Building Inspection/Code Compliance: 220-6254 • Dominion VA Power: 1-888-667-3000

Virginia Natural Gas: 1-877-572-3342 • Cox Communications: 1-757-224-1111

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